

# KNAPP DAY IN STATE SCHOOLS

November 27 Named As Agricultural Day In All Public Schools.

IN MEMORY OF DR. KNAPP

Hoped That This Observance Will Grow Into a Fixed Annual Custom Every November in Tennessee.

## FARM TO BE PURCHASED

State Supt. Brister, co-operating with the State Superintendents of the various Southern States, has named Wednesday, November 27, to be observed as the Knapp Agricultural Day in the public schools of the state. It is hoped and believed that the people of Tennessee, not merely the school children and school authorities, but all the people, will respond to the appeal made by the State Superintendent and will make this day notable in the history of the state.

It is planned in connection with this occasion to ask the people to make contributions to the fund necessary to purchase a farm and erect a building in memory of Seaman A. Knapp, and it is believed that the multitude of small subscriptions which will come from the various schools of the South will easily produce the sum desired.

From Brister to-day, in speaking of the Seaman A. Knapp School, said: "No more significant educational movement has been planned within recent years than the Seaman A. Knapp School for Country Life. Even the casual student of current events is familiar with the great interest now being taken in country life; and of all the phases of it none is receiving more attention than the country school. Every educational meeting of the last year or two has devoted a large part of its programme to it, and every speaker at such a meeting who wanted to arouse his hearers from their slumbers has struck a responsive chord when he talked about the rural school. The country schools indeed are coming to their own, they are attracting universal interest, attention is being focused upon them as never before. It is well to remark that this attention came none too soon; the country school has been sadly neglected, and in consequence has made comparatively little progress. It is due the thought and interest of the educational leadership of the patriotic citizenship of the country.

## RURAL SCHOOLS AND RURAL LIFE.

"When we analyze the various suggestions that are being made to improve and develop the country school situation we shall find, I think, that they may be grouped under three or four heads. There is urgent need of practical, intelligent, competent super-

## Saves Leg of Boy.

"It seemed that my 14-year-old boy would have to lose his leg on account of an ugly ulcer, caused by a bad bruise, wrote D. E. Howard, Agona, N. C. "All remedies and doctors' treatment failed until we tried Bucklin's Africa Salve, and cured him with one box. Cures burns, boils, skin eruptions, piles. See at Page 5 Sims Company."

visors in our country, competent super-Then there is need of a modern and vitalized course of study—not merely a set of books and recitations, but a group of activities to engage the attention of the pupils, all of them being related intimately to their life and bearing directly upon it.

"To make this possible it will be necessary to have a different and more thoroughly equipped teaching profession; and further it will be necessary that the centralized school, with its three or four teachers and its graded work, be established in the various country districts. By means of these and similar reforms we can give life and naturalness to the educational process and make it respond more satisfactorily to the demands which are now being made upon it. Our State Normal schools are committed to this programme and are trying to adjust themselves to assist in working it out. As the crown and glory of the professional educational system of the South, the George Peabody College for Teachers will stand; and the most significant department of this great institution will no doubt be the Seaman A. Knapp School for Country Life.

## AGRICULTURAL IDEA.

"I take it that the purpose of this school will not be to teach agriculture per se, but give such an acquaintance with it, such familiarity with its processes and possibilities to those who will enable them to appreciate its value, to know its beauties, its opportunities, its needs, its importance, and to be able to convey this information, to communicate this country life spirit to others. This means that country school teachers and leaders are to be especially prepared—not merely by the study of certain books, certain professional studies so-called, certain courses in methods; but the whole atmosphere of the school for training them is to be saturated with country life.

"The life of the country is their professional study, just as professional as psychology or the principles of education. Agriculture, it has been said, is not an occupation but a life. It is this life that must be studied, learned, loved, lived; and so man or woman has a right to-day to go into a country school who cannot love and live that life. Too many country teachers to-day are city bred and city taught. Too many others, even those who live in the country, have no love for it. They carry with them into the country their city ideas. The things of value, in their conception, are connected with the city, and they can point their pupils to no ideals that do not center in city life. Is it any wonder that the country school is unrelated that it stands aloof from its environment? Is it any wonder that the boy educated therein has visions, but they are not of birds and trees and flowers, dreams, but not of waving fields of golden harvest has ambitions, but not to contribute to the life and progress of the rural community; has ideals whose search carries him far away from his rich inheritance!

## EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS.

"To relate the country school to country life is one of the great educational problems pressing upon us for solution. School activities are to be made to grow out of the activities of the pupils' environment so that the boys and girls, trained and educated in such schools, can go therefrom into the ordinary activities of life with little loss of time, energy and effort. In the course of study should be agriculture, home economics, manual training, sanitation and hygiene and kindred subjects, all of them correlated with existing subjects of instruction in such a way as to save all that is valuable in the curriculum while enriching it with new elements of vigor and strength. The principles of this educational work, this vocational training, will be taught in the school, demonstrated in the school laboratories and gardens as far as the meager equipment of the school will permit, and demonstrated more completely by the girls in their mothers' kitchens and by the boys on their fathers' farms. Record of home work set, kept in note books, tabulated with as great care as if done in the laboratory, and these records should be as much in graduation and promotion as if the work were done under laboratory supervision. The trained South system, word, bring the home and school into closer relationship, greatly to the advantage of both.

"Every educator wants to have some share in working out this type of thing. All our school men are studying these problems in all the response to the George Peabody College for Teachers, and especially to the Seaman A. Knapp School for Country Life, to be a clearing house of educational thought in whose workshop laboratories and class rooms will be studied all phases of the great problem, and answers, satisfactory and practical, found.

"Let no man think that this interest in the country school belongs merely to the people who live in the country. The city people are as vitally concerned as their country cousins; the life of the city depends upon the development of the surrounding regions and way in can all, therefore, have a share in this great movement."

## LETTER TO SUPERINTENDENTS.

Supt. Brister is sending the following letter to County Superintendents and is expecting a cordial response: "The State Superintendents of the various Southern States have agreed to recommend the observance of Wednesday, November 27, 1912, as Agricultural Day in all the public schools. The purpose of this movement is to attract attention to the country school and country life for one day in every part of our section. Suggestive programmes are being arranged containing recitations and readings bearing upon country life. Boys of the corn clubs and girls of the canning clubs will be asked to display their products and all the school activities which center in the country will be called into operation in the observance of this day. It is hoped that this observance will grow into an annual custom and some day in November can be agreed upon by the millions of school children in the country with their friends and parents can come for a few brief hours and consider the needs peculiar to the country school and country life.

"A double significance will be attached to the day this year in that in connection with the programme of country life it is planned to commemorate the life and services of Dr. Seaman A. Knapp. It is useless to remind you of the value of Dr. Knapp's work. Of all the men of recent years who have contributed ideas of vital value to the educational development of the South, he stands out prominently. When we have passed through the present educational change and have worked out a satisfactory country school and have arranged a course of study and activities which will thoroughly equip our young people, it will no doubt be found that the ideas of Dr. Knapp have given coloring to the whole scheme.

"But his contribution was not merely an academic one; it was directly and immediately of material value. The larger returns from investments of time, labor and money in agricultural pursuits, which are reported from every state, the agricultural awakening which marks these latter years in every section of the South, is due largely to his labors, suggestions and teachings. It is natural that the South should undertake to pay some tribute to the memory of this man, and soon after his death a Memorial Committee was appointed, who, after consultation, planned to erect a memorial to him of such a nature as to conserve the great agricultural ideas he had given to the world. Later the General Education Board set aside \$250,000 to endow the Seaman A. Knapp School for Country Life as part of the George Peabody College for Teachers. The Knapp Memorial Committee thereupon resolved to raise a fund of \$150,000 from the school children and parents of the South to purchase a farm and erect a suitable building for carrying on the activities of the Seaman A. Knapp School.

"Knapp Agricultural Day in Tennessee and the South this year will be utilized to secure this fund. This does not mean that the primary purpose is to raise money. The real aim, as already suggested, being to study country life; but an incident of the gathering is a collection for this great and worthy cause. Small contributions are especially desirable. There are men who are willing to give the whole sum, a large part of it. But the committee in charge would much prefer a mul-

titute of nickels and dimes and dollars to a few large subscriptions. It has been suggested that it desired, the school observing the day may retain half the collection for local purposes, donate the remainder to the Knapp memorial, the part reserved to be used in school improvement, purchase of books bearing particularly on country life and supplying other needs of the country school.

"Every County Superintendent who has ever organized a corn club, or who has realized the benefit of such an organization in another county, every boy who has ever been connected with a corn club, or every girl who has ever heard of a canning club; every parent who has seen the interest of his children expand because of these and kindred organizations; every man, woman and child who has felt the stirring of these new movements in country life, ought to participate in the programme and make the Knapp Agricultural Day notable in the educational and material development of his community and state.

"I hope that you will take hold of this matter vigorously at once and thoroughly organize your county. At the earliest possible date have a meeting of your teachers and urge them to observe the day in their schools. Suggestive programmes will be furnished from my office. Every Superintendent who will co-operate in this movement will do me a favor by communicating with me at once."

## LITTLE POLITICAL TALK HEARD IN GILES

Special to the Banner. Pulaski, Tenn., October 12.—There is remarkably little talk in this section about politics, considering that the national and state elections are so close at hand, but the leaders and rank and file seem to be busy in a quiet way.

The Democrats, generally, will support Woodrow Wilson for President, though a few may vote for Taft and Roosevelt, and the Regulars will vote solidly for McMillin for Governor, while it seems to be tacitly understood that Gov. Hooper will get practically the same line-up he had two years ago, with a few exceptions, perhaps.

The Independent Democrats are unalterably opposed to ex-Gov. M. B. Patterson for anything, and it is intimated here that his candidacy has been a bad effect on that of Mr. McMillin. The Regular Democrats have a reasonable majority in the county and in August elected their men to two out of the three principal county offices filled at that election. It is predicted that an unusually large vote will be polled in the county in November.

The "Bull Moose" has some following, but the Taft men are confident of leading them in the county.

## REVIVAL CONTINUES AT U. B. CHURCH

The big revival is still going on at the United Brethren Church in North Nashville and interest is growing. Rev. J. J. Smith is preaching every night and the revival will continue until Wednesday, at which time the Annual Conference of United Brethren in Christ will convene at this church. There will be preachers and delegates from various points in Middle and West Tennessee. Bishop T. C. Carter, D. D., of Chattanooga, Tenn., will preside. Several of the brethren from the Northern States will visit the conference. The first session will open Wednesday at 9:30 a. m.

## Anxious to Keep Plant.

Special to the Banner. Clarksville, October 12.—The Chamber of Commerce at a meeting held Thursday decided to give some aid towards keeping the Old Hickory manufacturing plant in this city. This plant was burned last Monday night. Citizens, in order to keep the plant here, will furnish a building in the city, this factory manufactures overalls and oil coats and was an enterprise of much worth to the city. It is thought the proposition offered will be accepted.